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intake of water by the roots and its transpiration from the leaves have been much investigated, but "the behavior of the wood as the intervening conducting channel has almost entirely been neglected." The method used was to measure the amount of water passing in a given time and at standard pressure through a definite length of twig, the area of the cross-section of the wood being carefully measured. The paper includes two parts, one dealing with evergreens and the other with deciduous plants.

Some of the results are as follows. The specific conductivity of evergreens is relatively low, while that of deciduous plants is relatively high, and with a higher fluctuation. Some of the deciduous trees are more influenced by environmental conditions than are others. Considerable difference, in a lowering of conductivity, was found between the adult wood of the tree and that of "leaders" of young trees, a difference which becomes "exaggerated" in the main shoot of most climbers. The wood of arborescent monocotyledons was found to be defective in water-conductivity. The facts suggest that the lower conductivity of evergreens may be attributed to their narrow and short vessels.—J. M. C.

The Journal of General Physiology.—Many will welcome a new journal of general physiology.¹³ Both plant and animal physiology have suffered from being too little related and treated as distinct subjects. Such a publication will aid in bringing them into closer relation. This journal is sure of sufficient financial support and no doubt able editorship. Its aim is stated as follows: "*The Journal of General Physiology* is devoted to the explanation of life phenomena on the basis of the physical and chemical constitution of living matter." The first number contains the following articles: On the dynamics of photosynthesis, W. J. V. OSTERHOUT and A. R. C. HAAS; A method of studying respiration, W. J. V. OSTERHOUT; The antagonism between thyroid and parathyroid glands, E. UHLENHUTH; Difference in the action of radium on green plants in the presence and absence of light, C. PACKARD; Amphoteric colloids, J. LOEB; A theory of the mechanism of disinfection, hemolysis, and similar processes, S. C. BROOKS; The law controlling the quantity of regeneration of the stem of *Bryophyllum calycinum*, J. LOEB; Reversal of reaction by means of strychnine in planarians and starfish, H. R. MOORE; Light and the muscle tonus of insects; the heliotropic mechanism, W. E. GARREY; Luteal cells and hen-feathering, ALICE M. BORING and T. H. MORGAN.—WM. CROCKER.

Embryo sac and fertilization in *Oenothera*.—ISHIKAWA¹⁴ has investigated the behavior of the gametophytes and the fertilization phenomena in *O. nutans*

¹³ The Journal of General Physiology, editors, JACQUES LOEB and W. J. V. OSTERHOUT. Published bimonthly by the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research. Vol. I. No. 1. September 1918. Subscription \$5.00.

¹⁴ ISHIKAWA, M., Studies on the embryo sac and fertilization in *Oenothera*. Ann. Botany 32:279-317. pl. 7. figs. 14. 1918.